

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1 - 24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus comprising a housing including a testing chamber having a base portion, a supply line for supplying a sterilizing medium to the testing chamber, at least one indicator located in at least the testing chamber for indicating completion of sterilization, the housing being comprised of an assembly of ~~at least two~~ first and second superimposed housing parts fabricated of metal, ~~or/and~~ injection-moldable plastic, or both, the supply line being comprised of a channel located between a sidewall formed in at least one of the first housing parts; part and at least one ridge positioned on the interior of the first housing part, the sidewall being located at an outer side of the first housing part, the channel providing a flowpath for a sterilizing medium defined by the sidewall and the at least one ridge, the channel extending over substantially the entire surface of the first housing part, but for a surface portion of the first housing part, comprising the testing chamber, an opening provided on the outside of the first housing part communicating with the channel for introducing a sterilizing medium to the housing from ~~having an opening at one end thereof~~

~~communicating with the testing chamber and an opening at the other end thereof~~
~~for communicating with a source of the sterilizing medium source located outside~~
~~the housing, the channel communicating with the testing chamber at a channel end~~
~~opposite the opening in the first housing part, whereby a sterilizing medium that~~
~~enters the housing through the opening travels directly to the testing chamber via~~
~~the channel, wherein the channel has a length that, relative to a cross-section~~
~~thereof, is sufficiently great to impede complete deaeration of the supply line~~
~~during sterilization~~

~~—— the supply line is formed at least in part of a sidewall of at least one~~
~~housing part and at least in part of one or more inwardly-facing ridges formed on~~
~~an interior surface of at least one housing part, and further wherein~~

~~—— the base portion of the test chamber is formed at the end of the supply line.~~

26 -27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25,
wherein the indicator is a single indicator which extends over the entire length of
the ~~supply~~ channel.

29. (Currently Amended) Sterilization apparatus according to claim 25, wherein a plurality of indicators are distributed over the entire length of the ~~supply~~ channel.

30. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein, apart from ~~[[said]]~~ the opening ~~communicating with a source of the sterilization medium~~, the housing is hermetically sealed.

31. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the ~~supply~~ channel is of square or rectangular cross-section.

32. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the ~~supply~~ channel ~~follows~~ provides a spiral or meandering flowpath ~~[[path]]~~.

33. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the first and second housing parts are fixedly secured together.

34. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein a plurality of ridges ~~the least one ridge~~ is formed on ~~only one of the~~ first

housing part, and the second housing part is provided with a flat surface on a side facing the first housing part [[parts]].

35. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein ~~at least one of the~~ second housing part [[parts]] comprises a transparent material providing visual inspection of ~~which makes~~ the indicator ~~visible~~ without opening the housing.

36. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising a breaking line, along which the first and second housing parts are manually breakable to provide access to the indicator.

37. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising a least one tear strip in the at least one of the first and second housing parts, whereby tearing away of the tear strip ~~providing~~ provides access to the indicator.

38. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 33, further comprising [[an]] a second opening provided in ~~one of the~~ second housing part [[parts]] for ~~providing access to~~ accessing the indicator, the second opening

being provided with ~~[[and]]~~ an openable closure positioned over ~~[[for]]~~ the opening.

39. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the closure comprises a film ~~suitable not adapted~~ for re-closing the second opening.

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising a scale applied to at least one of the first and second housing parts.

43. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the housing is comprised of an assembly of ~~at least three superposed~~ first, second, and third superimposed housing parts in which at least the second housing part is provided with a channel that is superimposed and in communication and the channel is comprised of at least two superposed sets of channels communicating with the channel of the first housing part each other.

44. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the first and second housing parts are detachable from each other and further comprising a seal positioned between the first and second housing parts that seals the channel off from the external environment.

45. (Previously Presented) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 44, wherein the seal comprises a mat.

46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently Amended) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the first and second housing parts comprise at least one injection molded plastic having a heat resistance of at least 121° C.

48. (Currently Amended) A ~~Sterilization~~ sterilization testing apparatus comprising:

a housing including a testing chamber having a base portion;

a supply line for delivering a sterilizing medium to the testing chamber[[:]];

at least one indicator located in at least the testing chamber for indicating completion of sterilization; wherein

the housing ~~comprises~~ comprising separate first and second at least two superimposed housing parts fabricated of metal, injection-molded plastic having a heat resistance of at least 121° C, or both, which first and second housing parts do not share a common edge or surface prior to being superimposed;

the supply line ~~[[being]]~~ is comprised of a channel located between a sidewall provided on an outer side of ~~formed in at least one of the~~ first housing part and at least one inwardly facing ridge provided on the second housing part ~~[[parts]]~~, the channel having an opening at one end thereof communicating with the testing chamber and an opening at the other end thereof for communicating with a source of the sterilizing medium outside the housing; and ~~further~~ wherein a sterilization medium that enters the housing through the opening travels directly to the testing chamber via the channel

~~the supply line, the testing chamber, or both, is formed at least in part of a side wall of at least one of the housing parts and at least one inwardly-facing ridge formed on an interior surface of at least one of the housing parts.~~

49. (New) Sterilization testing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the second housing part is box-shaped, having an open side positioned between a top surface and a bottom surface of the second housing part, the first housing part being inserted into the second housing part through the open side, whereby the first housing part is retained within the second housing part, the opening of the first housing part being positioned along the open side of the second housing part,

a sealing mat positioned between a top surface of the first housing part and a bottom of the top surface of the second housing part, whereby the mat provides a seal between the first and second housing parts.

50.(New) The sterilization testing apparatus of claim 48 wherein the first housing part is provided with at least one inwardly facing ridge, whereby the channel is positioned between the sidewall provided on the outer side of the first housing part, the at least one inwardly facing ridge provided on the second housing part, and the at least one inwardly facing ridge of the first housing part.